GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:335
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016
Kisan C(K) rop Insurance
Kachhadia Shri Naranbhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a): whether the Government has launched a project called KISAN C(K) rop Insurance using Space Technology and Geo-Informatics and a UAV/Drone based Crop Damage Assessment System for optimum crop cutting experiment planning, improving yield estimation and crop damage/loss assessment and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the manner in which these projects are likely to be beneficial to the farmers especially in ensuring transparency, accountability and accuracy in damage assessment and timely payment of relief to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
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(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 335 DUE FOR REPLY ON 9TH AUGUST, 2016.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has launched a pilot study called KISAN (C(K)rop Insurance using Space technology And GeoiNformatics) for using high resolution data for better assessment of crop yield and crop loss under yield based crop insurance schemes. This study is being coordinated by Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), in collaboration with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) & Space Application Centre (SAC), State Remote Sensing Centres, State Agriculture Department and Indian Meteorological Department (IMD). This Pilot Study has been carried out in 4 districts (1 district each) in 4 States (Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra) during Kharif 2015 season and 8 districts (2 districts each) during Rabi 2015-16 season. Under this study, high resolution remote sensing data has been used for planning Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) including rationalization/optimization of CCEs and developing models for yield assessment. Another initiative undertaken in this study is use of smartphone based App for CCEs data collection.

The timely and accurate yield assessments are essential for settling insurance claims of the farmers on account of crop damage. The smartphone based Android App can be used for improving transparency, accountability and timeliness for getting data of CCEs, thereby facilitating timely settlement of claims of farmers under crop insurance scheme. The satellite data can also be used for crop damage assessment (at least at qualitative level), which is essential for implementation of crop insurance programme.

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